



TOWARD BETTER BUILDING MATERIALS MANAGEMENT :

Addressing C&D Issues

W2RAC May 21, 2013

Agenda



- Revisit 'parking lot' topics
- Discuss:
 - ▣ Existing conditions, definitions, goals, current work, potential future work
- We seek:
 - ▣ Common language and consistent definitions
 - ▣ Some unified ideas for future work

Existing Conditions



- Strong disposal infrastructure
- Continued interest in C&D recycling
- Limited recycling infrastructure and changing C&D recycling markets

C&D makes up ~35% of total waste stream

- WA waste hierarchy:
- Waste reduction / prevention is highest priority, followed by recycling, then safe disposal

Background

- Ecology was involved in green building to address C&D reduction, reuse and recycling
- Work on C&D issues preceded work on green building and continues past it



Definitions

Common definitions are vital:

- ▣ Sustainable building materials management
- ▣ Construction & demolition (C&D) debris
- ▣ Sham recycling



Definitions: Sustainable Building Materials Management

Sustainable building material management has two overarching aspects:

- ❑ Optimum resource management within the construction industry and



- ❑ Elimination or reduction of toxic substances from building materials & waste.



Definitions: C&D Debris

- Material remaining from construction, renovation, repair, demolition of houses and buildings
 - ▣ Also excess materials from roads, bridges, piers, and dams
- Common C&D materials:
 - ▣ lumber, drywall, metals, masonry (brick, concrete, etc.), carpet, carpet pad, plastic, pipe, roofing, paper, cardboard, asphalt
 - ▣ rocks, dirt, and green waste related to land development.



Definitions: Sham Recycling



Violating environmental regulations in the process of transporting, handling, or storing recyclable materials:

- Disposing of recyclable material when claiming it will be recycled
- Illegally dumping material collected for recycling
- Accepting materials for recycling for which there are no markets and stockpiling them

State Goals

- **Overall goals:** (Chapter 70.95.10 RCW)
Reduce waste, increase recycling, followed by safe disposal.
- **Building materials management goals**
 - ▣ Prevent and reduce C&D material waste
 - ▣ Encourage reuse of buildings and building materials
 - ▣ Increase recycling of C&D materials
 - ▣ Increase supervision and enforcement of transporter rules to help eliminate sham recycling
 - ▣ Reduced toxicity of building materials

Key Issues

- Measuring C&D is very difficult
- C&D is a large part of waste stream
- Sham recycling of C&D is an ongoing concern
- C&D recycling infrastructure is limited, markets change frequently
- Deconstruction and building material reuse takes more money and time, capacity is limited
- Many building materials still contain toxic chemicals
 - ▣ Pose challenges for recycling
 - ▣ Contaminate indoor or outdoor environment

Current Work:

Reduction and Recycling

□ Roofing Study:

- Funded by EPA
National Estuary
Program Grant



- Collaboration with roofing manufacturers to determine types and concentration of contaminants found in runoff from various roofing materials

Current Work:

Reduction and Recycling

□ Conference:

- Worked with Building Materials Reuse Association (BMRA) to bring bi-annual conference to Seattle
- Opportunity for WA's decon / reuse / C&D recycling industry to get latest info on best practices, technology, reuse applications, and business growth strategies



Current Work: Regulations

- **Work with local health jurisdictions**
 - ▣ Inspecting C&D material recovery facilities
 - ▣ Ensuring they are operated in compliance with solid waste regulations

- **Ecology putting more emphasis on exempt facilities**



Current Work: Regulations

- **Updating registered transporters list**
 - ▣ Increasing registrations of transporters covered under WAC 173-345
 - ▣ Verifying new registrants have UTC common carrier permits
- **Coordinating** with some local health departments to track loads of recyclables



Potential Future Work



We'd like your help generating ideas on:

- ▣ Potential activities that could help achieve the goals
- ▣ How we can best use current staff resources

We will compile and consider the groups' advice as we balance planning with budget constraints

Potential Work Ideas:

Reduction & Recycling

- **Information:** Website, materials map, create listserv
- **Education:** Find / report successes, demonstration projects
- **Toxics Focus:**
 - ▣ Promote safer products, and proper handling of toxics
 - ▣ Build on roofing study
- **Incentives:** Augment incentives in green building standards
- **Partnerships:**
 - ▣ Convene stakeholder meetings to develop strategies
 - ▣ Forge new partnerships while maintaining established ones

Potential Work Ideas:

Regulations

- Increase efforts to track loads of recyclables, in coordination with local health departments
- Assist local governments to plan policies / infrastructure that discourages or prevents sham recycling
- Track work on certification of C&D recycling facilities with the CMRA
- Get more resources for ECY to do increased oversight at exempt facilities
- **Other ideas?**



Thanks for your input!

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